

Hearing Date: August 4, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. AST  
Objection Deadline: April 5, 2021 (for parties other than the Fee Examiner)

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO**

In regarding:

THE FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT AND  
MANAGEMENT BOARD FOR PUERTO  
RICO,

as representative of

THE COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO,  
*et al.*

Debtors.<sup>1</sup>

PROMESA  
Title III

No. 17 BK 3283-LTS

(Jointly Administered)

**SUMMARY COVER SHEET TO THE ELEVENTH INTERIM  
APPLICATION OF JENNER & BLOCK LLP AS COUNSEL TO THE  
OFFICIAL COMMITTEE OF RETIRED EMPLOYEES OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO FOR ALLOWANCE OF  
COMPENSATION FOR SERVICES RENDERED AND  
REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES INCURRED  
FROM OCTOBER 1, 2020 THROUGH JANUARY 31, 2021**

Name of Applicant:

Jenner & Block LLP

Authorized to Provide Services To:

The Official Committee of Retired  
Employees of the Commonwealth of Puerto  
Rico

Retention Date:

June 16, 2017

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<sup>1</sup> The Debtors in these jointly-administered PROMESA title III cases, along with each Debtor's respective title III case number listed as a bankruptcy case number due to software limitations and the last four (4) digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, as applicable, are: (i) Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (Bankruptcy Case No. 17 BK 3283-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3481); (ii) Puerto Rico Sales Tax Financing Corporation (Bankruptcy Case No. 17 BK 3284) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 8474); (iii) Puerto Rico Highways and Transportation Authority (Bankruptcy Case No. 17 BK 3567-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3808); (iv) Employees Retirement System of the Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (Bankruptcy Case No. 17 BK 3566-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 9686); (v) Puerto Rico Electric and Power Authority (Bankruptcy Case No. 17 BK 4780) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3747); and (vi) Puerto Rico Public Buildings Authority (Bankruptcy Case No. 19 BK 5523-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3801).

Period for which compensation and reimbursement is sought:	October 1, 2020–January 31, 2021
Amount of interim compensation sought as actual, reasonable, and necessary:	\$1,110,091.07
Amount of interim expense reimbursement sought as actual, reasonable, and necessary:	\$90,736.96
Are your fee or expense totals different from the sum of previously served monthly statements?	No
Petition Date:	May 3, 2017
Blended rate in this application for all attorneys:	\$952.45 (\$809.58 following 15% fee discount)
Blended rate in this application for all timekeepers:	\$784.05 (\$666.44 following 15% fee discount)

This is an *interim* application.

The total time expended for Jenner’s fee application preparation for the Interim Fee Period is approximately 15 hours and the corresponding compensation requested is approximately \$12,000.

Total compensation approved by interim order to date:	\$17,496,441.66
Total expenses approved by interim order to date:	\$860,817.61
Total compensation paid to date:	\$18,200,052.54
Total expenses paid to date:	\$940,926.29
Total compensation subject to objection:	None
Total expenses subject to objection:	None
Number of Professionals Included in this Application:	27
Difference Between Fees Budgeted and Compensation Sought:	\$34,858.93 less than budget

Number of Professionals Billing Fewer than  
15 Hours to this Case:

10

Rates Higher than Those Disclosed at  
Retention:

Jenner adjusted its scheduled hourly rates as of January 1, 2018, January 1, 2019, January 1, 2020, and January 1, 2021. Time recorded from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 is at 2020 rates. Time recorded from January 1, 2021 through January 31, 2021 is at 2021 rates.

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Name of Professional	Title	Year Admitted	Department	Hourly Billing Rate (2020)	Total Billed Hours (2020)	Hourly Billing Rate (2021)	Total Billed Hours (2021)	Total Fees Requested
CHARLES W. GALBRAITH	Partner	2007	Government Relations	\$700	0.50	N/A	N/A	\$350.00
IAN HEATH GERSHENGORN	Partner	1993	Appellate & Supreme Court Practice	\$1,300	20.80	\$1,500	33.70	\$77,590.00
ROBERT D. GORDON	Partner	1989	Restructuring & Bankruptcy	\$1,225	107.60	\$1,300	14.30	\$150,400.00
MARC B. HANKIN	Partner	1992	Restructuring & Bankruptcy	\$1,125	21.80	\$1,150	1.30	\$26,020.00
ROBERT C. HARMALA	Partner	1995	Government Relations	\$900	1.20	N/A	N/A	\$1,080.00
KEITH M. HARPER	Partner	1995	Government Relations	\$900	0.40	N/A	N/A	\$360.00
TASSITY S. JOHNSON	Partner	2014	Appellate & Supreme Court	\$825	0.60	N/A	N/A	\$495.00
EMILY M. LOEB	Partner	2009	Investigations, Compliance & Defense	\$950	2.10	N/A	N/A	\$1,995.00
LANDON S. RAIFORD	Partner	2008	Restructuring & Bankruptcy	\$900	190.70	\$975	9.00	\$180,405.00
MELISSA M. ROOT	Partner	2003	Restructuring & Bankruptcy	\$975	170.80	\$1,025	18.10	\$185,082.50
CATHERINE L. STEEGE	Partner	1982	Restructuring & Bankruptcy	\$1,225	77.90	\$1,300	8.00	\$105,827.50
ADRIENNE LEE BENSON	Associate	2015	Appellate & Supreme Court Practice	\$755	43.50	N/A	N/A	\$32,842.50
KATHERINE A. ROSOFF	Associate	2018	Litigation	\$665	3.60	N/A	N/A	\$2,394.00
ADAM T. SWINGLE	Associate	2018	Restructuring & Bankruptcy	\$570	124.00	N/A	N/A	\$70,680.00
CARL N. WEDOFF	Associate	2010	Restructuring and Bankruptcy	\$880	91.30	\$895	14.10	\$92,963.50
WILLIAM A. WILLIAMS	Associate	2015	Restructuring & Bankruptcy	\$630	57.60	\$775	0.20	\$36,443.00
CARTER H. KLEIN	Of Counsel	1972	Corporate	\$775	18.80	N/A	N/A	\$14,570.00
LAURA E. PELANEK	Staff Attorney/ Special Counsel	2004	Litigation	\$585	216.00	\$660	85.00	\$182,460.00
RACHEL B. WILF-TOWNSEND	Law Clerk	2017	Litigation	\$630	64.00	\$725	25.30	\$58,662.50

ANNA M. WINDEMUTH	Law Clerk	2020	Litigation	\$535	38.40	N/A	N/A	\$20,544.00
KATHLEEN R. ALBERT	Paralegal	N/A	Litigation/Restructuring and Bankruptcy	\$330	61.70	\$335	4.30	\$21,801.50
CATHERINE R. CARACCI	Paralegal	N/A	Litigation/Restructuring and Bankruptcy	\$355	58.70	\$360	6.30	\$23,106.50
CHERYL L. OLSON	Paralegal	N/A	Litigation	\$400	14.00	N/A	N/A	\$5,600.00
MARC A. PATTERSON	Paralegal	N/A	Restructuring and Bankruptcy	\$230	45.30	\$235	11.30	\$13,074.50
CHARLOTTE M. STRETCH	Paralegal	N/A	Litigation	\$355	1.00	N/A	N/A	\$355.00
STEPHEN S. MELLIN	Library Services	N/A	Information Services	\$355	0.20	N/A	N/A	\$71.00
MARY E. RUDDY	Library Services	N/A	Information Services	\$355	1.00	N/A	N/A	\$355.00
JAMES P. WALSH	Library Services	N/A	Information Services	\$355	1.30	N/A	N/A	\$461.50
<b>Sub-Total*</b>					<b>1,434.80</b>		<b>230.90</b>	<b>\$1,305,989.50</b>
Less 15% Fee Discount on all matters except the Non-working Travel Matter								\$195,898.43
Less 50% Discount on Non-working Travel Matter								\$0.00
<b>Total</b>					<b>1,665.70 Hours</b>			<b>\$1,110,091.07</b>

**FEE EXAMINER'S REQUESTED ATTACHMENTS TO FEE APPLICATIONS**

**List of Professionals** – Exhibit E

**Compensation by Project Category** – Exhibit G

**Expense Summary** – Exhibit F

**List of Professionals by Matter** – Exhibit H

**Detailed Time Records** – Exhibit H

**Detailed Expense Records** – Exhibit I; additional detail submitted to the Fee Examiner under separate cover

**Customary and Comparable Disclosures** – Exhibit D

**Budget & Staffing Plan** – Submitted to the Fee Examiner under separate cover

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In regarding:

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MANAGEMENT BOARD FOR PUERTO  
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as representative of

THE COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO,  
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Debtors.<sup>1</sup>

PROMESA  
Title III

No. 17 BK 3283-LTS

(Jointly Administered)

**ELEVENTH INTERIM APPLICATION OF JENNER & BLOCK LLP AS  
COUNSEL TO THE OFFICIAL COMMITTEE OF RETIRED  
EMPLOYEES OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO FOR  
ALLOWANCE OF COMPENSATION FOR SERVICES  
RENDERED AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES INCURRED  
FROM OCTOBER 1, 2020 THROUGH JANUARY 31, 2021**

To the Honorable United States District Court Judge Laura Taylor Swain:

Jenner & Block, LLP (“**Jenner**”), attorneys for The Official Committee of Retired Employees of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (the “**Retiree Committee**”) in the above-captioned Title III case (“**Title III Case**”), hereby submits this Eleventh Interim Application (the

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<sup>1</sup> The Debtors in these jointly-administered PROMESA title III cases, along with each Debtor’s respective title III case number listed as a bankruptcy case number due to software limitations and the last four (4) digits of each Debtor’s federal tax identification number, as applicable, are: (i) Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (Bankruptcy Case No. 17 BK 3283-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3481); (ii) Puerto Rico Sales Tax Financing Corporation (Bankruptcy Case No. 17 BK 3284) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 8474); (iii) Puerto Rico Highways and Transportation Authority (Bankruptcy Case No. 17 BK 3567-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3808); (iv) Employees Retirement System of the Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (Bankruptcy Case No. 17 BK 3566-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 9686); (v) Puerto Rico Electric and Power Authority (Bankruptcy Case No. 17 BK 4780) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3747); and (vi) Puerto Rico Public Buildings Authority (Bankruptcy Case No. 19 BK 5523-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3801).

“**Application**”) for an award of interim compensation for professional services rendered, and reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses incurred in connection with such services, for the period from October 1, 2020 through January 31, 2021 (the “**Interim Period**”). Jenner submits this Application pursuant to: sections 316 and 317 of the *Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act* (“**PROMESA**”),<sup>2</sup> 48 U.S.C. §§ 2176, 2177; sections 105(a) and 503(b) of the Bankruptcy Code,<sup>3</sup> 11 U.S.C. §§ 105(a), 503(b); Rule 2016(a) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the “**Bankruptcy Rules**”)<sup>4</sup>; Rule 2016-1 of the Bankruptcy Rules for the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Puerto Rico (the “**Local Rules**”)<sup>5</sup>; the *Order Authorizing the Employment of Jenner & Block LLP as Attorneys for the Committee of Retired Employees* (the “**Retention Order**”) [Dkt. No. 1002]; the *Second Amended Order Setting Procedures for Interim Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses of Professionals* (the “**Interim Compensation Order**”) [Dkt. No. 3269]; the United States Trustee’s *Guidelines for Reviewing Applications for Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses Filed Under 11 U.S.C. § 330 by Attorneys in Large Chapter 11 Cases Effective as of November 1, 2013* (the “**UST Guidelines**”); the *First Amended Order Pursuant to PROMESA §§ 316 and 317 and Bankruptcy Code Section 105(a) Appointing a Fee Examiner and Related Relief* (the “**Amended Fee Examiner Order**”) [Dkt. No. 3324]; the *Order on Fee Examiner’s Motion to Impose Presumptive*

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<sup>2</sup> PROMESA is codified at 48 U.S.C. §§ 2101–2241.

<sup>3</sup> The Bankruptcy Code is codified at 11 U.S.C. §§ 101–1532. Unless otherwise noted, all Bankruptcy Code sections cited in the Application are made applicable to this Title III Case pursuant to section 301(a) of PROMESA.

<sup>4</sup> All Bankruptcy Rules referenced in this Application are made applicable to these Title III Cases pursuant to section 310 of PROMESA.

<sup>5</sup> The Local Rules are made applicable here by the Court’s *Order (A) Imposing and Rendering Applicable Local Bankruptcy Rules to These Title III Cases, (B) Authorizing Establishment of Certain Notice, Case Management, and Administrative Procedures, and (C) Granting Related Relief* [Dkt. No. 249].

*Standards and Timeliness Requirements for Professional Fee Applications* [Dkt. No. 3932]; the *Order Imposing Additional Presumptive Standards: Rate Increases and the Retentions of Expert Witnesses or Other Sub-Retained Professionals* (“**Additional Presumptive Standards Order**”) [Dkt. No. 7678]; and the Fee Examiner’s November 10, 2017 Memorandum (the “**Fee Examiner Memorandum**”). In support of this Application, Jenner submits the Certification of Robert D. Gordon (the “**Gordon Certification**”), attached hereto as **Exhibit A**, and respectfully represents as follows:

**Preliminary Statement**

1. On August 10, 2017, this Court entered the Retention Order, approving the Retiree Committee’s employment of Jenner, effective as of June 16, 2017. A copy of Jenner’s engagement letter is attached hereto as **Exhibit B**. The Retiree Committee represents approximately 167,000 retired employees of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (“**Commonwealth**” or “**Puerto Rico**”) and various Commonwealth agencies and instrumentalities and their surviving beneficiaries, including Puerto Rico’s retired teachers, police officers, firefighters, judges, municipal clerks, engineers, and other government workers of all categories, who hold accrued pension benefits on account of having participated in the Employee Retirement System (the “**ERS**”), the Teachers Retirement System (the “**TRS**”), and/or the Judiciary Retirement System (the “**JRS**”), among other potential post-employment benefits (the “**Retirees**”). The pensions of the Retirees, along with those held by currently active employees who have participated in the ERS, TRS, and/or JRS, are collectively underfunded by at least \$50 billion. The Retirees are the largest group of creditors in these title III cases.

2. During the Interim Period, Jenner performed a variety of legal services that were necessary and appropriate for the effective advancement of the Retirees’ interests in this Title III Case, including, among other things: meeting and conferring with the Retiree Committee; advising



the Retiree Committee regarding its powers and duties; advising the Retiree Committee regarding matters pertaining to or likely to affect Retirees' pension, healthcare, and other accrued retirement benefits; representing the Retiree Committee at court hearings and negotiation sessions involving matters pertaining to or likely to affect the benefits of the Retirees; participating in fact and expert discovery on behalf of Retirees; preparing on behalf of the Retiree Committee motions, applications, orders, and other legal papers; and advocating for Retirees in adversary proceedings and contested matters.

3. Jenner's work during the Interim Period was necessary for, and beneficial to, the Retirees and served to ensure that the Retirees' interests were properly represented and safeguarded in this Title III Case. Jenner respectfully requests that the Court award the fees and expenses requested in this Application.

#### **Jurisdiction**

4. The United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico (the "**Court**") has subject matter jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to PROMESA section 306(a).

5. Venue is proper pursuant to PROMESA section 307(a).

6. Jenner makes this Application pursuant to PROMESA sections 316 and 317, Bankruptcy Code sections 105(a) and 503(b), Bankruptcy Rule 2016, Local Rule 2016-1, the Retention Order, the Interim Compensation Order, and the UST Guidelines.

#### **Background**

7. On May 3, 2017, Puerto Rico, by and through the Financial Oversight and Management Board for Puerto Rico ("**FOMB**"), as Puerto Rico's representative pursuant to section 315(b) of PROMESA, filed a petition with the Court under title III of PROMESA.

8. On May 5, 2017, the Puerto Rico Sales Tax Financing Corporation (“**COFINA**”), by and through the FOMB, as COFINA’s representative pursuant to PROMESA section 315(b), filed a petition with the Court under title III of PROMESA.

9. On May 21, 2017, the Puerto Rico Highways and Transportation Authority (“**HTA**”), by and through the FOMB, as HTA’s representative pursuant to PROMESA section 315(b), filed a petition with the Court under title III of PROMESA.

10. On May 21, 2017, the ERS, by and through the FOMB, as the ERS’s representative pursuant to PROMESA section 315(b), filed a petition with the Court under title III of PROMESA.

11. On July 3, 2017, the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority (“**PREPA**”), by and through the FOMB, as PREPA’s representative pursuant to PROMESA section 315(b), filed a petition with the Court under title III of PROMESA.

12. On September 27, 2019, the Puerto Rico Buildings Authority (“**PBA**”), by and through the FOMB, as PBA’s representative pursuant to PROMESA section 315(b), filed a petition with the Court under title III of PROMESA.

13. Through Orders of this Court, the Commonwealth, COFINA, HTA, ERS, PREPA, and PBA title III cases (collectively, the “**Title III Cases**”) are jointly administered for procedural purposes only, pursuant to PROMESA section 304(g) and Bankruptcy Rule 1015. [See Dkt. Nos. 242, 537, 1417, 8829.]

14. On June 15, 2017, the U.S. Trustee, pursuant to section 1102(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code, appointed the Retiree Committee, consisting of the following nine individuals: Blanca Paniagua, Carmen Nuñez, Juan Ortiz, Lydia Pellot, Marcos A. Lopez, (retired) Judge Miguel Fabre, Milagros Acevedo, Rosario Pacheco, and José Marin.<sup>6</sup> [Dkt. No. 340.]

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<sup>6</sup> José Marin resigned from the Retiree Committee effective April 12, 2018.

**Jenner's Retention and Fee Request**

15. On June 16, 2017, the Retiree Committee elected to employ Jenner to represent the Retiree Committee.

16. On July 19, 2017, the Retiree Committee filed its *Application for an Order Approving the Employment of Jenner & Block LLP* [Dkt. No. 670] (the “**Retention Application**”) pursuant to sections 105(a) and 1103 of the Bankruptcy Code.<sup>7</sup>

17. On August 10, 2017, the Court entered the Retention Order approving Jenner's retention as counsel to the Retiree Committee, effective June 16, 2017, on the terms and conditions identified in the Retention Application. A copy of the Retention Order is attached hereto as **Exhibit C**. Pursuant to the Retention Order, Jenner is entitled to compensation for reasonable, actual, and necessary professional services rendered and reimbursement of expenses incurred in connection with the Title III Cases.

18. On October 6, 2017, the Court entered an Order appointing Brady Williamson as the fee examiner (the “**Fee Examiner**”) in these Title III Cases. [Dkt. No. 1416.]

19. On June 20, 2018, the Court entered the Amended Fee Examiner Order.

20. On December 15, 2017, Jenner filed its *First Interim Application for Allowance of Compensation for Services Rendered and Reimbursement of Expenses Incurred From June 16, 2017 Through September 30, 2017* (the “**First Interim Application**”) [Dkt. No. 2050], seeking \$2,051,975.37 in compensation and \$60,916.21 in expenses. On March 7, 2018, the Court entered an Order approving the First Interim Application (the “**First Interim Order**”) [Dkt. No. 2685] in

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<sup>7</sup> In a chapter 11 case, a committee appointed under section 1102 of the Bankruptcy Code ordinarily would seek authority to employ counsel pursuant to section 327. Because PROMESA does not incorporate section 327 of the Bankruptcy Code, the Retiree Committee moved for approval of its Retention Application pursuant to sections 105(a) and 1103(a). *See* PROMESA § 301(a) (omitting Bankruptcy Code sections 327 and 328 from incorporation into PROMESA).

the amount of \$2,030,996.12 in compensation and \$60,485.71 in expenses, reflecting certain reductions recommended by the Fee Examiner and agreed to by Jenner. Jenner has received 100% payment of the fees and expenses approved in the First Interim Order.

21. On March 19, 2018, Jenner filed its *Second Interim Application for Allowance of Compensation for Services Rendered and Reimbursement of Expenses Incurred From October 1, 2017 Through January 1, 2018* (the “**Second Interim Application**”) [Dkt. No. 2741], seeking \$2,054,446.59 in compensation and \$100,461.26 in expenses. On June 8, 2018, the Court entered an Order approving the Second Interim Application (the “**Second Interim Order**”) [Dkt. No. 3279] in the amount of \$2,004,389.11 in compensation and \$97,413.89 in expenses, reflecting certain reductions recommended by the Fee Examiner and agreed to by Jenner. Jenner has received 100% payment of the fees and expenses approved in the Second Interim Order.

22. On July 16, 2018, Jenner filed its *Third Interim Application for Allowance of Compensation for Services Rendered and Reimbursement of Expenses Incurred From February 1, 2018 through May 31, 2018* (the “**Third Interim Application**”) [Dkt. No. 3535], seeking \$1,969,909.52 in compensation and \$71,940.52 in expenses. On November 9, 2018, the Court entered an Order approving the Third Interim Application (the “**Third Interim Order**”) [Dkt. No. 4200] in the amount of \$1,939,594.08 in compensation and \$69,416.41 in expenses, reflecting \$30,315.44 in fee reductions and \$2,524.11 in expense reductions recommended by the Fee Examiner and agreed to by Jenner. Jenner has received 100% payment of the fees and expenses approved in the Third Interim Order.

23. On November 16, 2018, Jenner filed its *Fourth Interim Application for Allowance of Compensation for Services Rendered and Reimbursement of Expenses Incurred From June 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018* (the “**Fourth Interim Application**”) [Dkt. No. 4267], seeking

\$1,817,932.76 in compensation and \$108,986.92 in expenses, including \$16,302.15 in compensation inadvertently omitted from the Third Interim Application. On March 14, 2019, the Court entered an Order approving the Fourth Interim Application (the “**Fourth Interim Order**”) [Dkt. No. 5654] in the amount of \$1,787,635.21 in compensation and \$104,007.53 in expenses, reflecting \$30,297.55 in fee reductions and \$4,979.39 in expense reductions recommended by the Fee Examiner and agreed to by Jenner. Jenner has received 100% payment of the fees and expenses approved in the Fourth Interim Order.

24. On March 16, 2019, Jenner filed its *Fifth Interim Application for Allowance of Compensation for Services Rendered and Reimbursement of Expenses Incurred From October 1, 2018 through January 31, 2019* (the “**Fifth Interim Application**”) [Dkt. No. 5781, as corrected by Dkt. No. 5891], seeking \$1,600,680.36 in compensation and \$70,178.13 in expenses. On June 26, 2019, the Court entered an Order approving the Fifth Interim Application (the “**Fifth Interim Order**”) [Dkt. No. 7670] in the amount of \$1,573,774.60 in compensation and \$66,973.19 in expenses, reflecting \$26,905.76 in fee reductions and \$3,204.94 in expense reductions recommended by the Fee Examiner and agreed to by Jenner. Jenner has received 100% payment of the fees and expenses approved in the Fifth Interim Order.

25. On July 15, 2019, Jenner filed its *Sixth Interim Application for Allowance of Compensation for Services Rendered and Reimbursement of Expenses Incurred From February 1, 2019 through May 31, 2019* (the “**Sixth Interim Application**”) [Dkt. No. 7967], seeking \$1,971,702.85 in compensation and \$83,881.88 in expenses. On December 6, 2019, the Court entered an Order approving the Sixth Interim Application (the “**Sixth Interim Order**”) [Dkt. No. 9488] in the amount of \$1,941,702.85 in compensation and \$76,830.83 in expenses, reflecting \$30,000.00 in fee reductions and \$7,051.05 in expense reductions recommended by the Fee

Examiner and agreed to by Jenner. Jenner has received 100% payment of the fees and expenses approved in the Sixth Interim Order.

26. On November 15, 2019, Jenner filed its Seventh Interim Application for Allowance of Compensation for Services Rendered and Reimbursement of Expenses Incurred From June 1, 2019 through September 30, 2019 (the “**Seventh Interim Application**”) [Dkt. No. 9207], seeking \$1,994,019.44 in compensation and \$111,143.17 in expenses. On May 18, 2020, the Court entered an Order approving the Seventh Interim Application (the “**Seventh Interim Order**”) [Dkt. No. 13150] in the amount of \$1,961,656.51 in compensation and \$108,302.29 in expenses, reflecting \$32,362.93 in fee reductions and \$2,840.88 in expense reductions recommended by the Fee Examiner and agreed to by Jenner. Jenner is still owed allowed fees in the amount \$2,466.07 under the Seventh Interim Order. The Commonwealth unilaterally implemented a 1.5% holdback on the fees requested in Jenner’s June 2019 monthly fee statement, which Jenner does not believe is appropriate. Jenner reserves its right to seek payment of such sums.

27. On March 16, 2020 Jenner filed its Eighth Interim Application for Allowance of Compensation for Services Rendered and Reimbursement of Expenses Incurred From October 1, 2019 through January 31, 2020 (the “**Eighth Interim Application**”) [Dkt. No. 12406], seeking \$1,245,646.31 in compensation and \$62,799.73 in expenses. On July 24, 2020, the Court entered an Order approving the Eighth Interim Application (the “**Eighth Interim Order**”) [Dkt. No. 13824] in the amount of \$1,223,518.59 in compensation and \$60,799.73 in expenses, reflecting \$22,127.72 in fee reductions and \$2,000.00 in expense reductions recommended by the Fee Examiner and agreed to by Jenner. Jenner is still owed allowed fees in the amount of \$6,228.96 under the Eighth Interim Order. The Commonwealth unilaterally implemented a 1.5% holdback

on the fees requested in Jenner's January 2020 monthly fee statement, which Jenner does not believe is appropriate. Jenner reserves its right to seek payment of such sums.

28. On July 15, 2020 Jenner filed its Ninth Interim Application for Allowance of Compensation for Services Rendered and Reimbursement of Expenses Incurred From February 1, 2020 through May 31, 2020 (the "**Ninth Interim Application**") [Dkt. No. 13678], seeking \$1,868,971.73 in compensation and \$105,122.89 in expenses. On October 26, 2020, the Court entered an Order approving the Ninth Interim Application (the "**Ninth Interim Order**") [Dkt. No. 14925] in the amount of \$1,797,644.34 in compensation and \$105,122.89 in expenses, reflecting \$71,327.39 in fee reductions recommended by the Fee Examiner and agreed to by Jenner. Jenner is is still owed allowed fees in the amount of \$19,244.94 under the Ninth Interim Order. The Commonwealth unilaterally implemented a 1.5% holdback on the fees requested in Jenner's February 2020 through May 2020 monthly fee statements, which Jenner does not believe is appropriate. Jenner reserves its right to seek payment of such sums.

29. On October 16, 2020 Jenner filed its Tenth Interim Application for Allowance of Compensation for Services Rendered and Reimbursement of Expenses Incurred From June 1, 2020 through September 30, 2020 (the "**Tenth Interim Application**") [Dkt. No. 15152], seeking \$1,294,238.13 in compensation and \$110,631.98 in expenses. On March 8, 2021 the Court entered an Order approving the Tenth Interim Application (the "**Tenth Interim Order**") [Dkt. No. 15971] in the amount of \$1,235,530.25 in compensation and \$110,631.98 in expenses, reflecting \$58,707.88 in fee reductions recommended by the Fee Examiner and agreed to by Jenner. Jenner is is still owed allowed fees in the amount of \$146,896.05 in fees due under the Tenth Interim Order. The Commonwealth unilaterally implemented a 1.5% holdback on the fees requested in

Jenner's June 2020 through September 2020 monthly fee statements, which Jenner does not believe is appropriate. Jenner reserves its right to seek payment of such sums.

30. Pursuant to monthly fee statements, Jenner has received payment of \$831,926.49 in fees and \$80,108.68 in expenses that are also included in the Eleventh Interim Application. The Commonwealth unilaterally implemented a 1.5% holdback on all fees requested in Jenner's monthly fee statements during the Interim Period, which Jenner does not believe is appropriate. Jenner reserves its right to seek to payment of such sums.

31. Jenner's fees are based upon hours charged, recorded in tenth-of-an-hour increments, at Jenner's ordinary and customary hourly rates in effect as of January 1 of the calendar year in which the services are rendered, plus reimbursement of actual, necessary, out-of-pocket expenses and other charges incurred by Jenner on behalf of the Retiree Committee. Jenner adjusts its rates annually at the start of each calendar year, as disclosed in its Retention Application and approved by the Retention Order. The rates set forth herein include Jenner's 2020 rates and Jenner's 2021 rates. These rates are consistent with the rates charged to other clients, including outside of bankruptcy. Jenner has shared its 2020 and 2021 rates with the Retiree Committee, and the Retiree Committee has approved these rates. For this matter, Jenner agreed to discount its fee rates, but not out-of-pocket expenses and internal charges, by 15% from its rates in effect at the time the services are rendered.

32. The cover sheet to this Application contains a schedule setting forth all Jenner professionals and paraprofessionals who have performed services on behalf of the Retiree Committee during the Interim Period, the capacity in which each individual is employed by Jenner, the hourly billing rate charged for services performed by each such individual, the aggregate



number of hours expended by all such professionals and paraprofessionals, the aggregate fees billed, and, for attorneys, the year in which each professional was first licensed to practice law.

33. By this Application, Jenner seeks allowance of (a) compensation of \$1,110,091.07 for professional and paraprofessional services provided during the Interim Period; and (b) reimbursement of actual, reasonable, and necessary expenses incurred in the Interim Period in the amount of \$90,736.96.

34. This is Jenner's eleventh request for interim compensation in this Title III Case. As set forth in the Gordon Certification, all of the services for which interim compensation is sought herein were rendered for and on behalf of the Retiree Committee in connection with this Title III Case. To the best of Jenner's knowledge and as disclosed in the *Declaration of Robert D. Gordon in Support of Application of the Official Committee of Retired Employees of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico for Order Approving the Employment of Jenner and Block LLP* [Dkt. No. 670-2], the *First Supplemental Declaration of Robert Gordon in Support of Application for Order Approving the Employment of Jenner & Block LLP* [Dkt. No. 1766], the *Second Supplemental Declaration of Robert Gordon in Support of Application for Order Approving the Employment of Jenner & Block LLP* [Dkt. No. 3612], the *Verified Certification of Robert Gordon in Support of the First Interim Application of Jenner & Block LLP for Allowance of Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses* [Dkt. No. 2050-1], the *Verified Certification of Robert Gordon in Support of the Second Interim Application of Jenner & Block LLP for Allowance of Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses* [Dkt. No. 2741-1], the *Verified Certification of Robert Gordon in Support of the Third Interim Application of Jenner & Block LLP for Allowance of Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses* [Dkt. No. 3535-1], the *Verified Certification of Robert Gordon in Support of the Fourth Interim Application of Jenner & Block LLP for Allowance of*

*Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses* [Dkt. No. 4267-1], the *Verified Certification of Robert Gordon in Support of the Fifth Interim Application of Jenner & Block LLP for Allowance of Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses* [Dkt. No. 5781-1], the *Verified Certification of Robert Gordon in Support of the Sixth Interim Application of Jenner & Block LLP for Allowance of Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses* [Dkt. No. 7967-1], the *Verified Certification of Robert Gordon in Support of the Seventh Interim Application of Jenner & Block LLP for Allowance of Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses* [Dkt. No. 9207-1], the *Verified Certification of Robert Gordon in Support of the Eighth Interim Application of Jenner & Block LLP for Allowance of Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses* [Dkt. No. 12406-1], the *Verified Certification of Robert Gordon in Support of the Ninth Interim Application of Jenner & Block LLP for Allowance of Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses* [Dkt. No. 13678-1], the *Verified Certification of Robert Gordon in Support of the Tenth Interim Application of Jenner & Block LLP for Allowance of Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses* [Dkt. No. 15152-1], and the Gordon Certification attached as Exhibit A to this Application (together, the “**Gordon Declarations**”), Jenner is a “disinterested person” as defined in section 101(14) of the Bankruptcy Code, and except as otherwise specified in the Gordon Declarations, Jenner’s partners, associates, and special attorneys do not hold or represent any interest adverse to the Retiree Committee.

35. Jenner might have in the past represented, might currently represent, and likely in the future will represent parties that are parties in interest in these cases in connection with matters unrelated to the Retiree Committee or the Title III Cases. In the Gordon Declarations, Jenner disclosed its connections to parties in interest in the Title III Cases that it has been able to ascertain using reasonable efforts. Jenner will update such disclosures, as appropriate, if Jenner becomes aware of relevant and material new information.

36. Jenner performed the services for which it is seeking compensation solely on behalf of the Retiree Committee and not on behalf of any other committee, creditor, or other entity.

37. Jenner has not received payment or a promise of payment from any source other than the Commonwealth for its services rendered and expenses incurred on behalf of the Retiree Committee or to be rendered or incurred in any capacity whatsoever in connection with the Title III Cases.

38. Jenner does not share fees with any attorneys except to the extent permitted by section 504 of the Bankruptcy Code.

#### **Fees and Expenses Incurred During Interim Period**

##### **A. Customary Billing Disclosures**

39. Jenner's hourly rates are set at a level designed to compensate Jenner fairly for the work of its attorneys and paraprofessionals and to cover fixed and routine expenses. The hourly rates and corresponding rate structure utilized by Jenner in this Title III Case are equivalent to the hourly rates and corresponding rate structure used by Jenner for similar complex corporate, securities, litigation, and restructuring matters, whether in court or otherwise, regardless of whether a fee application is required. The rates and rate structure reflect that such complex matters typically are national in scope and typically involve great complexity, high stakes, and intense time pressures.

40. **Exhibit D** to this Application is a summary of blended hourly rates for (i) Jenner professionals (excluding Restructuring and Bankruptcy attorneys) and (ii) blended hourly rates for timekeepers for which Jenner is seeking hourly compensation in this Application, as required by the UST Guidelines.

**B. Fees Incurred During Interim Period**

41. In the ordinary course of Jenner's practice, Jenner maintains records of the time spent on the professional services provided to the Retiree Committee. **Exhibit E** to this Application is a summary of fees incurred and hours worked during the Interim Period for which compensation is sought on an hourly basis in this Application, setting forth the following information:

- the name of each attorney and paraprofessional for whose work compensation is sought;
- each attorney's year of bar admission and area of practice concentration;
- the aggregate time worked and fees billed by each attorney and each paraprofessional during the Interim Period;
- the hourly billing rates for each such attorney and paraprofessional at Jenner's applicable billing rates; and
- a calculation of total compensation requested using the rates disclosed in the Jenner Application.

**C. Expenses Incurred During Interim Period**

42. In the ordinary course of Jenner's practice, Jenner maintains a record of expenses incurred in rendering professional services to the Retiree Committee and for which reimbursement is sought. **Exhibit F** to this Application is a summary of the total amount of expenses for which Jenner seeks reimbursement with respect to each category of expenses for the Interim Period. The out-of-pocket disbursement sum is broken down into categories of charges.

**Summary of Legal Services Provided During the Interim Period**

43. During the Interim Period, Jenner provided important professional services to the Retiree Committee in connection with this Title III Case. A summary of the various services Jenner provided to the Retiree Committee during the Interim Period is set forth in paragraphs 46 through 59 below.

44. Jenner has established, in accordance with its internal billing procedures, subject matter categories (each, a “**Matter Category**”) for keeping time records of the work performed for the Retiree Committee. A schedule setting forth a description of each Matter Category utilized in this case, the number of hours worked by Jenner attorneys and paraprofessionals for each Matter Category, and the aggregate fees associated with each Matter Category is attached as **Exhibit G**. In addition, subject to redaction for attorney-client privilege, work product, and confidentiality where necessary to protect the Retiree Committee, Jenner’s records of time worked providing professional services to the Retiree Committee are attached hereto as **Exhibit H**, and Jenner’s records of expenses incurred in the rendition of professional services to the Retiree Committee during the Interim Period are attached as **Exhibit I**.

45. The following is a non-exhaustive summary, by Matter Category, of the professional services provided by Jenner during the Interim Period. This summary is organized in accordance with Jenner’s internal system of matter numbers.

**Adversary Proceeding – *Ambac/Assured Adversary Proceeding***

**Total Hours: 91.50                      Fees: \$109,710.00**

**Ambac Constitutional Challenge**

**Total Hours: 82.20                      Fees: \$92,994.00**

46. Jenner’s recorded time entries in these categories include, among other things: (a) researching and drafting briefing on Ambac’s constitutional challenge; and (b) preparing for and delivering oral argument on Ambac’s constitutional challenge.

47. The Ambac litigation is critically important to the Retiree Committee’s constituents. Ambac’s lawsuit—in which it seeks declaratory and injunctive relief based on its claims that PROMESA is unconstitutional—seeks to unwind all of the progress in these Title III Cases and threatens the plan support agreement that has been carefully negotiated between the Retiree Committee and the FOMB. Accordingly, it was imperative that the Retiree Committee

have a strong voice in this adversary proceeding. In the prior compensation period, the Retiree Committee successfully moved to intervene and filed a substantive joinder in support of the FOMB's motion to dismiss the adversary proceeding. During the Interim Period, Jenner's time entries reflect its work to prepare a reply in support of the Retiree Committee's joinder to the FOMB's motion to dismiss, as well as Jenner's time spent preparing for, and arguing at, the January 12, 2021 hearing on the motion to dismiss. In both instances, Jenner's attorneys carefully coordinated with counsel to the FOMB and AAFAF to ensure that the arguments presented by the Retiree Committee were complimentary to, and not duplicative of, arguments made by those parties.

**Adversary Proceeding – *UTIER v. Commonwealth***

**Total Hours: 0.10                      Fees: \$122.50**

48. Jenner's recorded time entries in this category reflect reviewing and analyzing pleadings and court decisions in the *UTIER v. PREPA* adversary proceedings (Adv. Proc. Nos. 17-228, 17-229) relevant to Retiree Committee constituents.

**Case Administration/Miscellaneous**

**Total Hours: 183.00                      Fees: \$135,491.50**

49. Jenner's recorded time entries in this category include, among other things: (a) meeting internally on strategy, allocation of assignments, and other matters; (b) reviewing legal and political developments relevant to the status and prosecution of the Title III Cases; (c) communicating with the FOMB, AAFAF, the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors, and other parties-in-interest in the Title III Cases regarding general matters; (d) reviewing pleadings and court submissions not attributable to another Matter Category; (e) case and project management; (f) monitoring public meetings of the FOMB; and (g) miscellaneous work not attributable to another Matter Category. Jenner conducts periodic calls among Jenner professionals and a weekly call among Jenner and the Retiree Committee's other retained professionals to

discuss the case status, delegate work, and collaborate on strategy. These calls are designed to promote efficiency, coordinate the work plan, and eliminate duplication of effort among the Retiree Committee's retained professionals.

**Committee Governance and Meetings**

**Total Hours: 33.80                      Fees: \$36,908.00**

50. Jenner's recorded time entries in this category include, among other things:

- (a) counseling and assisting the Retiree Committee in the proper performance of its duties;
- (b) preparing for, conducting, and participating in meetings of the Retiree Committee; (c) assisting the Retiree Committee in preparing agendas and minutes for those meetings; (d) drafting written summaries of developments in the Title III Cases and the Retiree Committee professionals' work; and (e) rendering other services related to Committee governance. For each Committee meeting, each Jenner and Bennazar attorney attending the meeting was responsible for presenting to and advising the Retiree Committee regarding various agenda items according to their varying knowledge and expertise.

**Communications with Retirees**

**Total Hours: 1.00                      Fees: \$1,240.00**

51. Jenner's recorded time entries in this category include, among other things:

- (a) working with the Retiree Committee's other professionals to develop and review content for the Retiree Committee website; (b) developing and disseminating answers to frequently asked questions as well as other materials to provide information about the Title III Cases to Retirees through the Retiree Committee website, social media, and other platforms; and (c) analyzing and developing strategies for addressing other needs and initiatives for communicating with the Retiree Committee's constituents.

**Court Hearings**

**Total Hours: 5.80                      Fees: \$6,006.00**

52. Jenner's recorded time entries in this category include, among other things: (a) attending and representing the Retiree Committee at Court hearings; and (b) preparing for Court hearings, including reviewing hearing agendas, pleadings, and other submissions considered at or relevant to Court hearings.

**Employment of Professionals/Fee Applications (Jenner Professionals)**

**Total Hours: 54.50                      Fees: \$38,754.00**

53. Jenner's recorded time entries in this category include, among other things: (a) preparing Jenner's Tenth Interim Application and monthly fee statements and, specifically, ensuring compliance with UST Guidelines and those of the Fee Examiner; (b) reviewing Jenner's invoices to protect confidentiality and privilege; (c) communicating with the U.S. Trustee's office and the Fee Examiner and his team regarding items of requested compensation and reimbursement; and (d) communicating with Hacienda regarding payment of past-due fees pursuant to Jenner's monthly fee statements and interim fee applications.

**Employment of Professionals/Fee Applications (Non-Jenner Professionals)**

**Total Hours: 27.90                      Fees: \$24,804.50**

54. Jenner's recorded time entries in this category include, among other things: (a) assisting the Retiree Committee's financial advisors, actuaries, Information Agent, and Retiree Committee members with their tenth interim compensation and expense applications and preparing their monthly statements; (b) communicating with the Fee Examiner and his team concerning appropriate compensation procedures for the Retiree Committee's financial advisors, actuaries, Information Agent, and members; and (c) communicating with Hacienda regarding payment of past-due fees pursuant to the Retiree Committee's professionals' monthly fee statements and interim fee applications.



**ERS Bond Issues**

**Total Hours: 849.10**

**Fees: \$626,609.00**

55. The ERS Bondholder Litigation is critically important to the Retiree Committee and its constituents. The bondholders have asserted claims against both ERS *and* the Commonwealth. The magnitude of the bondholders' approximately \$3 billion in claims could adversely affect the feasibility of any plan of adjustment, including the proposed plan which incorporates the Retiree Committee's plan support agreement and includes a pension reserve mechanism for the benefit of Retirees. As such, it was important for the Retiree Committee to vigorously object to the ERS bondholder's claims. Jenner notes that during the Interim Period—as in all prior compensation periods—it balanced its need to provide the Retiree Committee with zealous advocacy on this critical dispute with the important objective of working collaboratively with other parties to avoid duplication of effort.

56. Jenner's recorded time entries in this category include, among other things: (a) drafting and filing numerous pleadings in connection with dispositive motions concerning ERS Bondholder claims filed by the Retiree Committee, the FOMB, and ERS bondholders; (b) drafting two briefs to strike the ERS Bondholders' expert witnesses, one of which was granted completely and the other of which was granted in part; (c) reviewing and analyzing ERS Bondholders' responses to claims objections filed by FOMB; (d) reviewing and analyzing other pleadings and court filings relevant to ERS Bondholder claims; (e) reviewing expert reports and participating in expert discovery; (f) conducting legal research relating to the foregoing; and (g) reviewing document productions. As noted above, Jenner's time records also indicate that its attorneys collaborated with the professionals representing the FOMB, AAFAF, the Unsecured Creditors Committee, and the Special Claims Committee of the FOMB wherever possible to ensure efficiency and minimize duplication of effort.

**Fiscal Plan/Plan of Adjustment**

**Total Hours: 103.70                      Fees: \$93,782.50**

57. Jenner's recorded time entries in this category include, among other things: (a) monitoring and analyzing legal, financial, economic, and political developments in the Title III case and in Puerto Rico which may have an impact on the Plan of Adjustment and the treatment of the Retiree Committee's constituents; (b) analyzing and conducting legal and factual research concerning other issues and strategy relative to Plan of Adjustment negotiations and confirmation; and (c) communicating with the Retiree Committee and the Retiree Committee's advisors and actuaries regarding such matters.

**GO Bonds Issues**

**Total Hours: 1.50                      Fees: \$1,320.00**

58. Jenner's recorded time entries in this category include (a) reviewing and analyzing general obligation bond documents; (b) reviewing and analyzing general obligation bondholder claims and court submissions; and (c) reviewing and analyzing bondholders' public disclosures.

**Mediation**

**Total Hours: 66.20                      Fees: \$75,782.50**

59. Jenner's recorded time entries in this category include time spent representing the Retiree Committee in all aspects of the confidential mediation process. Due to the confidential nature of the mediation, the time entries have been redacted. Jenner provided unredacted copies of its time to the Fee Examiner subject to the confidentiality protections set forth in paragraph 10 of the Amended Fee Examiner Order.

**Rule 2004 Investigation**

**Total Hours: 165.40                      Fees: \$109,710.00**

60. Jenner's recorded time entries in this category include (a) reviewing discovery responses concerning Rule 2004 discovery propounded by creditors; (b) participating in briefing related to such discovery; (c) reviewing and analyzing documents produced by interested parties; and (d) communicating with other parties in interest regarding these matters.

**Actual and Necessary Expenses Incurred by Jenner During the Interim Period**

61. As summarized in Exhibit F and as set forth in detail in Exhibit I, Jenner has incurred a total of \$90,736.96 in expenses on behalf of the Retiree Committee during the Interim Period. The expenses identified in Exhibit F are intended to reimburse Jenner's direct costs that are not included in Jenner's hourly billing rates. Only clients who actually use services of the types set forth in Exhibit F of this Fee Application are charged for such services.

**Jenner's Requested Compensation and Reimbursement Should be Allowed**

62. The services for which Jenner seeks compensation in this Application were, at the time provided, reasonably calculated to be necessary for and beneficial to the Retiree Committee. Jenner performed these services economically, effectively, and efficiently. Jenner submits that the compensation requested is reasonable in light of the nature, extent, and value of such services to the Retiree Committee. Accordingly, Jenner submits that the compensation sought in this Application is warranted and should be approved.

**A. Compensation Under Sections 316 and 317 of PROMESA.**

63. Section 317 of PROMESA authorizes interim compensation of professionals and incorporates the substantive standards of section 316 of PROMESA to govern the Court's award of interim compensation. Section 316 of PROMESA provides that a court may award a professional employed under section 1103 of the Bankruptcy Code "reasonable compensation for actual, necessary services rendered," and "reimbursement for actual, necessary expenses." 48 U.S.C. § 2176(a)(1), (2). Section 316(c) sets forth the criteria for such an award:

In determining the amount of reasonable compensation to be awarded to a professional person, the court shall consider the nature, the extent, and the value of such services, taking into account all relevant factors, including—

- (1) the time spent on such services;

- (2) the rates charged for such services;
- (3) whether the services were necessary to the administration of, or beneficial at the time at which the service was rendered toward the completion of, a case under this chapter;
- (4) whether the services were performed within a reasonable amount of time commensurate with the complexity, importance, and nature of the problem, issue, or task addressed;
- (5) with respect to a professional person, whether the person is board certified or otherwise has demonstrated skill and experience in the restructuring field; and
- (6) whether the compensation is reasonable based on the customary compensation charged by comparably skilled practitioners in cases other than cases under this subchapter or Title 11.

48 U.S.C. § 2176(c).

64. As analyzed below, Jenner submits the elements governing awards of compensation under PROMESA justify the allowance requested.

#### **1. The Time and Labor Required**

65. During the Interim Period, Jenner's partners, associates, and paraprofessionals spent 1,665.70 hours providing professional services to the Retiree Committee for which Jenner seeks compensation on an hourly basis. Jenner coordinated its efforts with co-counsel to avoid duplication of efforts. Jenner required this amount of time to conduct its investigations, research and analyze numerous complex, novel issues arising from the Title III Cases, advise the Retiree Committee with respect to these issues, participate in seeking resolution of these issues, and perform the other tasks described herein.

#### **2. The Rates Charged for Such Services**

66. During the Interim Period, Jenner's hourly billing rates ranged from \$700.00 to \$1,500.00 per hour for partners, from \$570.00 to \$895.00 for associates, \$585.00 for special

counsel, from \$230.00 to \$360.00 for paraprofessionals. Based on the recorded hours expended by Jenner's attorneys and paraprofessionals, the average hourly billing rate was \$952.45 for Jenner attorneys and \$784.05 for all Jenner timekeepers prior to application of the 15% fee-rate discount provided by Jenner to the Retiree Committee, and \$809.58 for Jenner attorneys and \$666.44 for all Jenner timekeepers after accounting for this discount.

67. Jenner's hourly rates are set at a level designed to compensate Jenner fairly for the work of its attorneys and paraprofessionals and to cover certain fixed and routine overhead expenses. Hourly rates vary with the experience and seniority of the individuals assigned. These hourly rates are subject to periodic adjustments to reflect economic and other conditions and are consistent with the rates charged by Jenner and the marketplace for services requiring a similar level of sophistication and investment of resources.

68. The hourly rates and corresponding rate structure that Jenner charges in these cases are equivalent to or less than the hourly rates and corresponding rate structure that Jenner charges for similar complex corporate, securities, litigation, and restructuring matters, whether in court or otherwise, regardless of whether a fee application is required.

### **3. The Necessity of the Services and the Benefit to the Estate's Retirees**

69. As described herein, the services rendered by Jenner were necessary for the effective and efficient representation of the Retiree Committee's interests in this Title III Case. All of those services benefitted the Retiree Committee and the Retirees.

70. The Retiree Committee has reviewed this Application and has approved the compensation and reimbursement of expenses requested herein.

**4. The Reasonableness of the Time Spent, Based on the Complexity, Importance, and Nature of the Issues**

71. Jenner's work involved the representation of the Commonwealth's largest creditor constituency—Puerto Rico's 167,000 retired teachers, police officers, firefighters, judges, municipal clerks, engineers, and other government workers of all categories—whose pensions, along with those held by currently active employees who have participated in the ERS, TRS, and/or JRS, are collectively underfunded by at least \$50 billion. Jenner's professional services during the Interim Period were necessary to ensure that the interests of the Retirees were properly represented and safeguarded and that all matters relevant to the Retiree Committee were handled in an appropriate manner. Failure of the FOMB and the Commonwealth to properly consider and protect Retiree interests in this Title III Case could cause significant hardship to the Retirees and contribute to the failure of any attempt to successfully reorganize and rehabilitate Puerto Rico and its economy. Moreover, this Title III Case presents complex and vital issues of first impression. In light of the foregoing, Jenner submits that the compensation requested is reasonable.

**5. The Experience, Reputation, and Ability of the Attorneys Providing Services**

72. As set forth in the Retention Application, the Retiree Committee selected Jenner as its counsel because its attorneys have extensive experience, knowledge, and resources in the areas of complex restructuring and bankruptcy, municipal finance, employee benefits and litigation, and Jenner has the ability to commit substantial resources to the representation of the Retiree Committee. The attorneys representing the Retiree Committee have particular expertise in the areas of municipal bankruptcies and retiree committee representation. Jenner attorneys have achieved a high degree of expertise and positive reputations in their respective fields. Jenner's Restructuring and Litigation departments frequently receive recognition for their skill and achievements, and Jenner is frequently cited as one of the leading U.S. law firms in these fields.

In this complex and high-stakes Title III Case, the unique and specialized skills of Jenner's attorneys are critically important.

**6. Customary Compensation**

73. The work for which Jenner seeks compensation in this Application is of the type and nature for which Jenner customarily would seek compensation at the rates identified in this Application, even before applying the 15% discount here. In addition, the compensation Jenner seeks in this Application is comparable to, or less than, the compensation it would have sought for comparable work outside of the Title III Cases.

74. Jenner submits that the compensation requested is reasonable under all the factors considered under sections 316 and 317 of PROMESA and that the factors justify allowing in full Jenner's compensation and reimbursement request.

75. In view of the foregoing, Jenner respectfully requests that it be allowed interim compensation in the amount of \$1,110,091.07 for services rendered during the Interim Period.

**B. Reasonable and Necessary Expenses Incurred in Providing Services to the Retiree Committee.**

76. For the Interim Period, Jenner requests reimbursement of \$90,736.96 for reasonable and necessary costs and expenses incurred on behalf of the Retiree Committee.

77. Jenner's normal billing rates do not take these costs and expenses into consideration. Rather, Jenner bills each cost and expense to the applicable client. Because of the disparity between different clients' requirements for expenses such as travel, computer-assisted research, teleconference services, postage, courier and messenger services, and photocopying, it is difficult to charge costs and expenses fairly and equitably by including them in Jenner's ordinary billing rates. Accordingly, Jenner generally charges each client for such costs and expenses separately, in each case, at Jenner's costs.

78. Jenner does not include the amortization of the cost of any investment, equipment, or capital outlay in its charges for these services.

79. Jenner represents that its rate for duplication for black-and-white copies is \$0.11 per page, and for color copies the rate is \$0.25 per page. In accordance with the Fee Examiner's guidance, Jenner is seeking reimbursement for black-and-white copies at the rate of \$0.10 per page. Jenner does not charge for telecopier transmissions.

80. Any services billed by a third-party vendor, with the exception of certain computer-assisted research charges, are charged to the Retiree Committee in the amount billed to and paid by Jenner. Like many large law firms, Jenner has negotiated a special arrangement with computerized research companies under which Jenner pays a flat rate monthly fee for computerized research services. Consistent with its general policy of billing out-of-pocket expenses only to clients for which the use of such services is required, Jenner separately charges each client for computer-assisted research. To account for such charges while passing through Jenner's cost savings resulting from its special arrangements, Jenner charges those clients for which such services are required at a reduced rate that is less than the rate charged by the computerized research companies to the general public for such services. These charges are intended to cover Jenner's direct costs for computerized research.

81. Pursuant to Local Rule 2016-1(b)(7), Jenner seeks reimbursement for air travel limited to the amount spent on coach fare.

82. Jenner has made reasonable efforts to minimize its costs and expenses in connection with its representation of the Retiree Committee. Each of the costs and expenses Jenner has incurred in providing professional services to the Retiree Committee was necessary, reasonable, and justified under the circumstances to serve the needs of the Retiree Committee.



**Statement by Jenner Under Paragraph C(5) of the UST Guidelines**

83. This engagement involves variations from Jenner's standard and customary billing rates. Jenner has agreed to discount its fee rates, but not out-of-pocket expenses and internal charges, by 15% off its rates in effect at the time the services are rendered.

84. None of the professionals included in this Application varied their hourly rate based on the geographic location of their cases.

85. The Application does not include time or fees specifically related to reviewing or revising time records or preparing, reviewing, or revising invoices.

86. The Application includes approximately six hours of time and approximately \$5,000 of fees spent on reviewing Jenner time records to redact privileged or other confidential information and to ensure compliance with UST and Fee Examiner guidelines.

87. The hourly rates specified in the Retention Application were effective June 16, 2017. Jenner's engagement letter with the Retiree Committee provides that Jenner periodically adjusts its scheduled hourly rates, generally at the beginning of a calendar year.

88. Consistent with the UST Guidelines and the Fee Examiner Memorandum, Jenner began submitting budgets to the Fee Examiner for the period beginning January 2018. Jenner's budgets estimated fees for the Interim Period at \$1,144,950.00. Jenner is requesting compensation of \$1,110,091.07 for the Interim Period—\$34,858.93 or approximately 3% less than the amount budgeted.

**Reservation of Rights and Notice**

89. It is possible that some professional time expended or expenses incurred during the Interim Period are not reflected in the Application. Jenner reserves the right to include such amounts in future fee applications.

90. Pursuant to the Interim Compensation Order, the Retiree Committee has provided notice of this Application to: (a) the U.S. Trustee; (b) counsel to the FOMB; (c) counsel to AAFAF; (d) counsel to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors; (e) the Fee Examiner; and (f) all parties that have filed a notice of appearance with the Clerk of this Court, pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2002 and applicable provisions of the Local Rules, and requested such notice.

**No Prior Request**

91. No prior application for the relief requested by this Application has been made to this or any other court.

WHEREFORE, Jenner respectfully requests that the Court enter an order awarding Jenner:

(a) compensation of \$1,110,091.07 for professional and paraprofessional services provided during the Interim Period; (b) reimbursement of actual, reasonable, and necessary expenses incurred in the Interim Period in the amount of \$90,736.96; and (c) such other relief as is appropriate under the circumstances.

Dated: March 15, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

JENNER & BLOCK LLP

/s/ Robert Gordon

Robert Gordon (admitted *pro hac vice*)

Richard Levin (admitted *pro hac vice*)

919 Third Ave

New York, NY 10022-3908

rgordon@jenner.com

rlevin@jenner.com

212-891-1600 (telephone)

212-891-1699 (facsimile)

Catherine Steege (admitted *pro hac vice*)

Melissa Root (admitted *pro hac vice*)

353 N. Clark Street

Chicago, IL 60654

csteege@jenner.com

mroot@jenner.com

312-222-9350 (telephone)

312-239-5199 (facsimile)

*Counsel for The Official Committee of Retired  
Employees of Puerto Rico*